know that the Small Industries Department have already finalised the Bill and the Bill is pending in the Ministry of Industry, for taking the approval of the Finance Ministry. The Bill is supposed to be introduced in the House... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have the information with you?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Yes, I have the information with me.

MR. SPEAKER: Then you can show it to the Minister.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: I would like to know whether the Minister. In-charge and the Finance Ministry will take care and give the clearance immediately, so that the Ministry of Industry can bring the Bill in this House, in this session.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: They can sent it to the Ministry of Industry.

[*Translation*]

Smuggling of Narcotics in Ghazipur and Varanasi districts of Uttar Pradesh

*632. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been steady increase in the smuggling of narcotics in Ghazipur and Varanasi Districts of Uttar Pradesh,

(b) if so, the steps taken to check the smuggling of narcotics in this area;

(c) the number of smugglers arrested during the last one year and the quantity of narcotics seized from them; and

(d) the steps being taken to contain the increasing consumption of narcotics in this area?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENTS

Statistics of seizures of Narcotics in the Ghazipur and Varanasi Districts, as given in the table below, do not indicate any increase in illict drug trafficking.

	Year	*Opium*	*Heroin*	*Ganja (Cannabis)*	*Charas (Hashish)*
			(Quantity in Kilograms)		
Varanasi District	1988	1.380	3.385	-	-
	1989	0.620	1.326+ 328 purias	20.100	-
	1990	0.090	1.970+ 836 purias	100.470+ 91 purias	0.500
	1991 (upto July)	0.010	0.811+ 896 purias	69.879+ 72 purias	0.450
Ghazipur District	1988	-	0.835	-	-
	1989	0.600	2.942	5.325	-
	1990	0.400	1.189	69.385	-
	1991 (up to July)	0.310	0.268	179.310	-

The Govt. have however continued to take stringent legislative, administrative and enforcement measures to prevent any increase in illicit trafficking activities.

During the calender year 1990, 318 persons in Varanasi and 144 persons in Ghazipur have been arrested for offences under the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act. In 1991, upto July, the Number arrested have been 275 in Varanasi and 73 in Ghazipur. The quantities of drugs seized have been given in the table above.

The Govt. Have adopted a two-pronged strategy of reduction of illicit supply through law enforcement, and reduction of illicit demand by generating public awareness against addiction and counselling and de-addiction through voluntary organisations.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the basis of the figures provided by the hon. Minister he has tried to show that there has been no increase in the smuggling of narcotics in Ghazipur and Varanasi districts in Uttar Pradesh but the reality is different. The fact is that the smuggling of narcotics in both these districts has further extended even to the rural areas. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government propose to set up a special team to check the smuggling of narcotics particularly heroin.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the sake of the information of the hon. Member I would like to tell that as per the figures provided by the concerned officials, the smuggling of narcotics like opium, heroin, and charas has gone down to a considerable extent during the last four years i.e. 1988 to 1991 though the smuggling of ganja has increased to some extent. 318 persons in Varanasi district and 144 persons in Ghazipur have been arrested during the year 1990 while 275 persons in Varanasi and 73 persons in Ghazipur have been arrested during the year 1991. In this manner, as I have already submitted that smuggling of no other narcotic than ganja has increased.

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked whether the Government propose to form a special squad in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister may kindly tell whether the Government propose to form special squad or not.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The hon. Member may be aware that Ghazipur and Varanasi do not fall under the area where inter-national and inter state smugglers are active. Both these districts are in Uttar Pradesh therefore the State Government, the excise department and the police hold the responsibility in this regard. Besides, the special organisation set up by the Central Government called revenue intelligence and the Border Security Force...

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Members want to know whether the Government propose to form some special squad or not.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: There is no need of it.

[*English*]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: The hon. Minister has not mentioned the most popular narcotic prevalent today-the brown sugar. I would like to ask two questions. Firstly, how much brown sugar was confiscated or found in these two districts? Secondly, in the question about how to contain the increasing consumption, he has answered that "the Government have adopted a two-pronged strategy of reduction of illicit supply through law enforcement, and reducton of illicit demand..." The point is that, the genesis of the illicit supply of this narcotic is in the districts of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Mainly in Mandsaur which happens to be the district of the Chief Minister and the Home Minister of Madhya Pradesh the genesis of all the opium production and the production

of all the narcotics in this country is there. I am only stating the fact.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: How can he make a reference to the Chief Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: If there is anything defamatory, I will look into it.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: No, no. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We can also do that. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I am stating a fact that the district of Mandsaur is the genesis of supply. Will he consider reduction of opium farming? (*Interruptions*) I am asking whether the Minister will consider complete stoppage or reduction in farming of opium in this country. (*Interruptions*) This is highly objectionable. I have only mentioned a statement of fact.

Mandsaur district happens to be the home district of Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and the Home Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: While the Question pertains to smuggling only in Gazipur and Varanasi, why do you drag the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh in the discussion time and again.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: The highest smuggling goes on in Maharashtra. Can we say that the Chief Minister of Maharashtra is involved in that? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have already given a ruling on the issue.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order in question hour.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask a supplementary.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No clarification please.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The Hon. member wanted to know about brown sugar. Brown sugar is heroin in another name.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the quantity of brown sugar from these two districts?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: That is there. As regards production, there was a little uproar. I would like to say that the production of opium for the last two years, about which the Hon. Member mentioned, in Uttar Pradesh in 1989-90...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I was asking whether he would consider stoppage of opium farming or reduction in the area of opium.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That will be done by the Agriculture Minister.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: No, no. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, please; no cross-talk.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: I wanted to give that figure. The production has already come down in the case of Uttar Pradesh. (*Interruptions*) There are three central opium production centres in the

country. I am giving the break-up and showing how it has been reduced and is being gradually reduced.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, please. Another question is very important. He is saying, " Are you interested in reducing the farming of opium and production?"

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Actually, we have done.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already done it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think this is not a state matter. Is the Ministry of Finance aware of the fact that the opium is smuggled in U.P. through Kathmandu border and the border is unguarded? This is not the question of opium in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

MR. SPEAKER: This question pertains to Gazipur and Varanasi only.

SHRI SHANKARSINH VAGHELA: Is the Ministry of Finance taking some steps to put a check on all types of smuggling activities in the country in consultation with the Ministry of Home and the Ministry of Defence?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Are you doing anything in a coordinated manner? I think, the answer is 'yes'.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: So far as production part is concerned, three production centres are there, It is minimum in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan and maximum in Madhya Pradesh. In all the three States, production has come down.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that a provision has been made for 10 years imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 2 lakh under this Act in this regard? Even then the convicts are easily acquitted. In the circumstances are you going to take up some stern steps to safeguard the interests of poor farmers, who are generally the victims of the affairs? All the influential persons involved in smuggling easily escape from the dragged to law. Will you make certain arrangements to bring the actual smugglers to book? At present, there are number of shortcomings in the law. Are you going to make certain amendments in the law to rectify these shortcomings.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to make the punishment stringent?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The punishment is already stringent. The question is where should it be applicable. Wherever it is applicable, we see to it that we do not spare the guilty persons.

New rules for balance sheets for public sector Banks

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*633. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new rules and formats for balance sheets for public sector banks have come into effect from the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the public sector banks have been asked to disclose the amount of bad and doubtful debts in their balance sheets; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?